

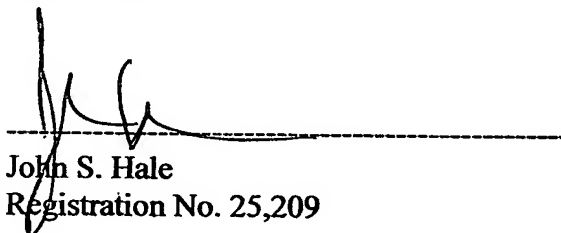
Applicant additionally traverses the requirement for species election. Since Applicant has elected Ia, the single provisionally elected species in claim 11 is growth factors. The same species is provisionally elected in claim 18 should the restriction for (Ib) claim 16 be withdrawn. Likewise, the carrier species sodium hyaluronate in claim 20 is provisionally elected if the restriction for (Ib) claim 16 is withdrawn. In claim 31 (Ic), growth factor is provisionally elected if the restriction for Ic is withdrawn and in claim 33, the carrier species sodium hyaluronate is provisionally elected if the restriction for Ic is withdrawn.

It is noted that claims 1, 13, 24 and 34 are deemed generic.

Prompt examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

GIPPLE & HALE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John S. Hale", is written over a horizontal dashed line. The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and "H".

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